

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6017

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

BRUSSELS USEC 046

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 1125

FROM ROCAP

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: SIECA INVITES U.S. PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL SEMINAR ON
TRADE POLICY

REF: (A) BRUSSELS 1089 (NOTAL; (B) GUATEMALA 894

1. BY LETTER DATED 25FEB, 1975, THE SECRETARIAT OF CENTRAL AMERICAN
INTEGRATION (SIECA) REQUESTED ROCAP ASSISTANCE IN INVITING U.S.
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO PARTICIPATE IN A REGIONAL SEMINAR ON
COMMERCIAL POLICY TO BE HELD IN GUATEMALA APRIL 7 AND 8, 1975.
THE SEMINAR WILL BE FINANCED BY THE OAS AND IS JOINTLY SPONSORED
BY THAT ORGANIZATION AND SIECA. THE OAS LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE,
CARLOS HIDALGO, AND SIECA AUTHORITIES EXPECT THAT THIS TWO-DAY
SEMINAR WILL BE ATTENDED BY THE CENTRAL AMERICAN VICE MINISTERS
OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, VICE MINISTERS OF ECONOMY, DIRECTORS OF
OFFICES OF COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS AND DIRECTORS OF OFFICES OF
EXPORT PROMOTION. THIS SESSION IS CONCEIVED AS THE KICK-OFF FOR
A SERIES OF MONTH-LONG SEMINARS TO BE HELD IN EACH OF THE FIVE
CENTRAL AMERICAN CAPITALS, FOR MIDDLE-LEVEL TECHNICIANS OF THE
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS, ON THE SUBJECT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE
AND EXPORT PROMOTION.

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2. IT IS PLANNED THAT THE APRIL 7-8 SESSION CONSIST OF ADDRESSES AND DISCUSSIONS ON FOUR TOPICS, TO WIT:

A) ECONOMIC PROSPECTS FOR LATIN AMERICA IN 1975. THE SPONSORS HAVE INVITED RAUL PREBISCH TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT.

B) THE ECONOMIC POLICY OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY TOWARD DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IT IS EXPECTED THAT PAOLO CHECHINE, DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE EC COMMISSION, WILL PRESENT THIS TOPIC.

C) PROSPECTS OF U.S. TRADE POLICY TOWARD DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE INVITED TO ADDRESS THIS TOPIC.

D) THE INTEGRATION CONCEPT AND THE COMMON FOREIGN TRADE POLICY OF CENTRAL AMERICA. SIECA WILL MAKE THIS PRESENTATION.

3. ACTION REQUESTED

ROCAP URGES THE ACCEPTANCE OF THIS INVITATION AND THE EARLY DESIGNATION OF AN EXPERT WITH STATURE AT LEAST EQUAL TO THAT OF THE EC PARTICIPANT. AN INDICATION OF U.S. PARTICIPATION WOULD BE APPRECIATED ASAP, EVEN IF DESIGNATION OF THE PARTICULAR U.S. SPEAKER MIGHT NOT BE IMMEDIATELY FEASIBLE. IN CONVEYING THE INVITATION, OAS AND SIECA REPRESENTATIVES INDICATED THAT CHECHINE WOULD PROBABLY BE ACCOMPANIED BY ADDITIONAL EC EXPERTS. HE IS EVIDENTLY PART OF THE TRAN TEAM VISITING LATIN AMERICA (REF A). THEY MADE IT CLEAR THAT MORE THAN ONE U.S. GOVERNMENT EXPERT WOULD BE MOST WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRESENTATION. THEY ALSO SAID THERE WOULD BE NO "CONFRONTATION" ON U.S. TRADE POLICY. PARKER ACTING. ALSO PASSED INFO USAID/GUATEMALA. ANDREWS

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